

# Your submission to Proposed mandatory phase out of single-use plastic shopping bags

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## Reference no: 6136

**Submitter Type:** Individual

### Clause

1. Do you agree with the proposed mandatory phase out of the sale or distribution of single-use plastic shopping bags in New Zealand, including those made of degradable (eg, oxo-degradable, biodegradable and compostable) plastic? Why / why not?

### Position

Yes

### Notes

Non plastic compostable alternatives should be accepted

### Clause

2. We have proposed a mandatory phase out of single-use plastic shopping bags. This could include under 50 microns or under 70 microns in thickness. If you agree with a mandatory phase out, which option do you prefer, and why?

### Position

Other (please specify)

### Notes

All bags made from plastic should be phased out regardless of thickness

### Clause

3. Are you aware of types of single-use plastic shopping bags that should be exempt from a mandatory phase out?

### Position

No

### Notes

Compostable should be exempt as it should contain no actual plastic

### Clause

4. Do you currently manufacture, sell, provide or import for sale or personal use these types of single-use plastic shopping bags:

### Position

No

### Notes

### Clause

5. Should smaller retailers be exempted from a mandatory phase out of single-use plastic shopping bags? Why / why not?

### Position

No

### Notes

No-one should be exempt to fix the problem. There is too much plastic already, we need urgent action to cease and desist with plastic!

### Clause

6. If smaller retailers are exempted from a mandatory phase out of single-use plastic shopping bags and they are defined by their number of full-time equivalent employees, what should that number be?

### Notes

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### Clause

7. The proposed mandatory phase-out period for single-use plastic shopping bags is at least six months from when regulations are Gazetted, subject to consultation. Do you agree with this timing?

### Position

Yes

### Notes

Fantastic! The sooner that better. 6 months should be plenty of time to source replacement bagging requirements

**Clause**

8. Do you agree that the benefits expected from implementing a mandatory phase out of single-use plastic shopping bags exceed the costs expected from implementing the phase out? Why / why not? Please consider both monetary and non-monetary costs and benefits (those that can be measured by money as well as those that can't).

**Position**

Yes

**Notes**

Undoubtedly. The world and environment needs to become our priority.

**Clause**

9. Do you think that reasonably practicable alternatives to single-use plastic shopping bags exist in New Zealand? Why / why not?

**Position**

Yes

**Notes**

Absolutely. Loads of reusable bags available, containers can be taken into bulk stores to fill.

**Clause**

10. How can people be encouraged to reuse multiple-use shopping bags enough times to offset the environmental impacts of producing them? (select one or more)

**Position**

national information campaign and mobile phone app for shoppers

**Notes**

Incentives from retailers is also very good motivation.

**Clause**

11. What would help you and your family adjust to life without single-use plastic shopping bags?

**Notes**

We already have. We have reusable bags which we have had for quite some time. We bulk buy from bulk stores with our own containers. We buy selectively to reduce plastic packaging also

**Clause**

12. How can data on single-use plastic shopping bags and other single-use plastics entering the market and monitoring of reductions be improved?

**Notes**

No idea how it is currently monitored. Maybe random audits of large retailers and small retailers?